

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Applicant acknowledges, with thanks, the receipt of the office action dated July 25, 2007, and completion of the telephonic interview of October 11, 2007. The Examiner's suggestions and observations are much appreciated and summarized herein. Claims 1-16 are pending.

Claims 1-3, 5-7, 9-11 and 13-15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,814,510 to Sabbaugh et al and U.S. Patent No. 6,814,510 to Nuggehalli. Claims 4 and 12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Sabbaugh and Nuggehalli, and in further view of U.S. Patent Publication No. 2004/0051743 to Gonsho. Claims 8 and 16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Sabbaugh and Nuggehalli, and in further view of U.S. Patent Publication No. 2004/0085563 to Nishimura. Claims 17-31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Nuggehalli. Claims 17-31 were cancelled, thus this rejection is moot. In view of the amendments and arguments set forth below, it is submitted that all pending claims are patentably distinct over the art of record.

The subject application is directed to a system and method for continuously updating a printer driver associated with a printer configuration. A key value associated with a registry on a controller is monitored upon startup. A current printer configuration is retrieved from the registry in accordance with the monitoring. A file external to the registry containing at least one offset representative of at least one printer attribute is accessed. The at least one offset is queried and a data structure containing information about initialization and a device data file containing information about the environment of a printer is updated. The updated device data file is communicated to an associated document processing device for use in connection with document processing operations.

Sabbagh is directed to a system for updating printer drivers. When a printer configuration is changed, a port monitor updates a print driver registry. The port monitor further informs a print driver on a print server as to a configuration change. Configuration data is then transferred from the print server to a client device. Unlike Sabbagh, the subject application includes an embodiment wherein a key value associated with a registry is monitored upon boot up. This key value, in turn, causes a retrieval of a current registry configuration and an access of

a file, external to the registry, which sets forth an offset of at least one printer attribute. The forgoing, in turn facilitates an update of associated print driver information so as to allow an associated interface to accurately reflect accurately device characteristics. Such device characteristics include items such as paper size, finishing options and media type. In the case of a downloaded driver, a user may update modified device characteristics; however such information on configuration changes is not preserved on a device controller.

Amendment to each of independent claims 1 and 9 has been made to further clarify the novel aspects of the subject application over the art of record. More particularly, a registry change triggers access to an external file inclusive of an offset value. This, in turn, facilitates an update of a data file which sets forth device characteristics. This is thereby preserved in the document processing device so that updated characteristics will be accurately reflected in subsequent driver downloads and utilization. It is submitted that, with this amendment, all claims are therefore patentably distinct over the teachings of Sabbagh.


The deficiencies in the teachings of Sabbagh relative to the amended claims are not remedied by any additional teachings of Nuggehalli, Gonsho or Nishimura. Nuggehalli is cited as being directed to teaching an offset. To the extent use of an offset file is disclosed, it is far removed from the external offset file to which access is triggered on a basis of a key value which is altered due to a registry change detected on boot up. Gonsho is cited as teaching use of XML for displaying print information and updating a print driver, but is also deficient in teaching the forgoing. Finally, Nishimura is cited as teaching use of a DEVMODE file for printer configurations, but is also deficient in teaching the subject claims as clarified by the amendments thereto.

In view of the afore-noted amendments and comments, which further summarize and supplement the discussions in the recent interview, it is submitted that all claims are patentably distinct over the art of record and in condition for allowance thereover. An early allowance of all claims is respectfully requested.

If there are any fees necessitated by the foregoing communication, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge such fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-0902, referencing our Docket No. 66329/31254.

Respectfully submitted,

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